

# ATTACHMENT B

## Endangered Species Information

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C-089237



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, SACRAMENTO  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
1325 J STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814-2922

October 22, 1998

Environmental Resources Branch

Mr. William T. Hogarth, Ph.D., Regional Administrator  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
501 West Ocean Boulevard  
Long Beach, California 90802

Dear Mr. Hogarth:

This is our biological assessment (BA) for the proposed restoration work at Prospect Island, California. Prospect Island is located in Solano County between the Sacramento River Deep Water Ship Channel and Miner Slough (see Figure 1 of enclosure 1). This BA is based on the October 1997 draft EA/IS and subsequent coordination with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The draft EA/IS describes the project and its potential effects on Federally listed and proposed endangered and threatened species which may occur in the project area. The species included in the draft EA/IS were identified in a letter from USFWS dated July 11, 1997 (Ref# 1-1-97-SP-1647). We have received a subsequent species list from USFWS in a letter dated April 17, 1998 (Ref# 1-1-98-SP-1150). A letter from your staff dated April 21, 1998 (Ref# F/SWR4:PR) confirmed the species within your Endangered Species Act purview. No additional species have been listed since this April letter.

According to the species list in the April 21 letter, the Federally listed species under your jurisdiction that may occur near or at Prospect Island include the Sacramento River winter-run chinook salmon and its critical habitat and Central Valley ESU steelhead. The Federally proposed species include the Central Valley ESU spring-run chinook salmon and its critical habitat and Central Valley ESU fall/late fall-run chinook salmon and its critical habitat.

Although breaching of Prospect Island levees at two places may have some minor impact to habitat for listed fish species, it is our biological assessment that the Corps' proposed construction plans would not adversely affect any Federally listed species or critical habitats in the project area, as described in enclosure 1 ("An Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Federally Listed Species That May Result from the Implementation of the Prospect Island Restoration Project"). In fact, we expect the project to be beneficial to Central Valley ESU steelhead, and the chinook salmon species. However, there is some potential that conditions will exist occasionally within some portions of the restored habitat that may be harmful to these listed species. There is concern that listed species will be exposed to increased rates of predation or to other environmental hazards, such as low dissolved oxygen concentrations. Therefore, a monitoring program (enclosure 2) has been developed by the California Department of Water Resources so that problems can be detected and remedial actions taken. In the process of monitoring, listed species will be taken, which will require that we obtain an incidental take permit. If the monitoring reveals that listed species are being exposed to excessive environmental hazards, corrective actions


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will be identified and the steps necessary to obtain funding will be taken. We request to enter into Section 7 consultation to obtain incidental take permits for monitoring and to address the plan of action if conditions develop that are harmful to listed species. We will also be entering into consultation with the USFWS.

We have been coordinating with your office regarding this biological assessment. In a February 14, 1997 letter, your agency requested that we provide additional information about the project. We have provided that information in enclosures 1 and 2. We will continue to provide your office with any assistance or additional information that may expedite this consultation. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Robert Koenigs at (916) 557-6712.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Walter Yep", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Walter Yep  
Chief, Planning Division

Enclosures

Copies furnished:

Ms. Penny Ruvelas, National Marine Fisheries Service, 777 Sonoma Avenue, Room 325, Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Ms. Collette Zemitis, California Department of Water Resources, Environmental Services Office, Monitoring and Analysis Branch, 3251 S Street, Sacramento, California 95816-7017